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Saturday, August 10, 2002

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Chairman Michael K. Powell  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington DC 20554

Dear Chairman Powell.

I am very disappointed and concerned about the FCC's latest ruling regarding digital tuners in television sets. I ~~am~~ shocked at the audacity Congress and the FCC present on this issue, and dismayed by this intrusion into my life.

Neither Congress nor the FCC should be telling the American people what to buy, or how they should view their television programs. It is unfair to require manufacturers to install digital tuners in every television set, and unfair to remove the freedom of choice from consumers.

I do not consider myself an above-average or even average TV viewer. In fact, I do not currently have cable and generally only watch news programming. I do not need a satellite or digital feed to be perfectly content with my television viewing experience. However, you are telling me that I must spend *more* money to buy my next television set because manufacturers are forced to install digital tuners, and I will not even be using the digital aspect! This is unfair.

Congress should spend its time with more important matters than how the American people watch TV. Digital television may have sharper images and better sound, but the government has no right to force that price and overrated indulgence on the public.

If I wanted digital cable, rest assured that I would purchase it (if I can ever afford it). However, I can promise you that unless I *do* have digital cable, I will *never* purchase a television set with a digital tuner. I will buy three television sets next year –before your demands go into effect- with extraordinary warranties on all of them if I have to, but digital will not become a part of my home until I decide to bring it in.

Commissioner Martin has been reported as making very logical and persuasive statements regarding this requirement. Perhaps you should listen to him. He, at least, seems to understand the American people.

It is a very dark and dreadful day in the United States when the government reaches into my home, into my life, and tells me "thou shalt have digital." I am very *sorry* that you have felt it necessary to vote for this requirement and I can only hope that the next time you are faced with an issue that challenges American rights and freedoms, you will look back on this situation and step back. Let the American people decide for themselves.

Confirmed

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Sincerely,

Lauren C. Adasiak

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